

But don't just take my word for it; this is what other people are saying: Greg Suhr, the San Francisco Police Chief says, "If there was a "how to" book on how to be the most gracious fair objective "cool under fire" reporter in the world, Rita Williams' picture would be on the cover." Ed Chapuis, her news director for over 10 years says, "Her stories were always the hardest for her editors to edit, because each word was placed with such purpose and precision." Bill Drummond, journalist and husband of the late Faith Fancher, Rita's long-time friend and colleague, says, "With Rita the reporting came first, and because of that commitment, her stories transcended the usual limitations of the television news medium."

Rita grew up in Lubbock, Texas. She was the first in her family to earn a college degree. After she graduated from Texas Tech University with a B.A. in journalism, she worked as the press secretary for the late Texas Congressman George Mahon, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee. She then earned her Master's degree in political science/international affairs from George Washington University.

Rita worked as a news reporter at KSAT-TV in Texas from 1975–1978 and then moved to California. She was a reporter for KQED-TV before she joined KTVU in 1980. From 1985–86, she was also a Knight Fellow and taught broadcast news writing at Stanford.

When Rita entered the broadcast world, it was dominated by men. Surviving and even thriving in this testosterone-driven environment was no small accomplishment, but Rita did it with grace and tenacity. She calls herself the "first broadcast broad." She opened KTVU's San Francisco bureau in the Hall of Justice. Rita has reported thousands of social, economic and political stories, treating each one as the most important story at the time. Her work has earned her several Emmies, Tellies, a PASS award from the National Council on Crime and Delinquency, a public service award from the Society of Professional Journalists and many other awards. She was one of the lead investigative reporters in the Oakland BART shooting stories that contributed to a prestigious Peabody award and Edward R. Murrow award to KTVU.

While Rita takes utmost pride in her profession and work, she views her family as her biggest accomplishment. Rita and her husband of 37 years, Lindsey, are the proud parents of Brad who is now a law student in San Francisco. Brad and my children grew up around the same time, so Rita and I often compared notes and shared school referral options.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor one of the finest journalists and human beings I know. On her last day on the air at KTVU, Rita humbly thanked her viewers and said, "You have entrusted me with one of the biggest responsibilities anybody could ever have, to be a reporter and to be your eyes and ears. I hope that I have used that trust well and that you have learned something in return." The answer to that hope is a resounding yes!

ENERGY DIVERSIFICATION

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, energy is of vital importance to our Nation. It is the cornerstone of our economy, allowing for the everyday happenings of our lives to go uninterrupted. Because it is so critically important, we must have steady and abundant sources of energy for our consumption. This is crucial not only to our economy, but to our national security.

Investments in our resources must be strategic, well thought out, and establish a stable supply for our future. The only way to ensure both stability and abundance is through diversification of our varying resources. Any financial expert would advise their clients that diversification is key when investing funds in our financial system. The same is true in regard to our energy sector. While Republicans continue to push bills targeted to a single resource, they fail to come up with a strategic plan that will encompass all forms of energy resources including hydrocarbons and renewables.

While I believe that we cannot leave out any source in attempting to attain our energy goals, bills such as H.R. 2231, the Offshore Energy and Jobs Act leverage all our activity to one type of fuel, analogously, putting all of our eggs in one basket. I believe oil and gas will continue to play a role in our economy in the near future. I agree that responsible and sensible drilling should continue to take place. If we look at my home State of Texas, we can see that oil and gas have been key to keeping our economy strong through the tumultuous years of the Great Recession. But, oil and gas are not the only fuel source we are able to utilize for energy production in Texas. In western Texas, winds howl through the fields and we have made use of this great natural resource by placing wind farms on land to collect this type of kinetic energy. This is an example of how we can utilize hydrocarbon resources and take advantage of clean renewable resources at our disposal.

Let's put aside partisan bickering and come together on a true energy plan that will address our country's future needs. Bills that simply give lip-service to increasing our energy supply such as the Offshore Energy and Jobs Act, will never be signed into law, and are not plausible for us to be considering. My no vote for the Offshore Energy and Jobs Act was not a condemnation of drilling activities off of our shores, but rather a recognition that we need a comprehensive, responsible, and environmentally sound energy plan for our future that can be passed by the Senate and signed by the President.

THE TAXPAYER RECEIPT ACT OF 2013

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, taxes are a civic duty essential to governance, yet very little information about how that tax money is spent is ever sent back to the American peo-

ple. The awareness gap results in significant misinformation and disengagement. For example, a 2005 Washington Post/Kaiser Foundation poll found that by a margin of two to one, Americans believe that the federal government spent more on foreign aid than on either Social Security or Medicare.

For that reason, I am introducing the Taxpayer Receipt Act of 2013 to help clarify misconceptions. The Taxpayer Receipt Act requires the Treasury Secretary to provide each taxpayer with an annual itemized "receipt" explaining how his or her tax liability was spent and include: tables reflecting the taxpayer's income tax liability, the amount of the liability spent on each category, and the actual federal outlays for each category; a table containing the 10 costliest tax expenditures; and, an annual budget review using CBO budget projections.

For an example of what a Taxpayer Receipt would look like, go to: <http://mcdermott.house.gov/images/pdttaxpayerreceiptmockupv3.pdf>

Nina Olson, the Taxpayer Advocate who is an independent advocate for taxpayers within the IRS, supports this reform and the Washington Post and the New York Times have both featured articles that support the taxpayer receipt. In 2010, Third Way released an idea brief explaining the benefits of such a taxpayer receipt. You can find the entire Third Way idea brief here: http://content.thirdway.org/publications/335/Third_Way_Idea_Brief_-_A_Taxpayer_Receipt.pdf.

Providing a receipt to taxpayers would be inexpensive and simple to implement and similar to the existing Social Security Administration statement provided each year. Most importantly, this information provides the clarity and transparency that the American people want and deserve.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEBRASKA COLLEGE OF TECHNICAL AGRICULTURE

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture as they celebrate a Century of Ag Education.

Established in 1913 as the Nebraska Agriculture School, high school age students from across the state lived and learned in Curtis, Nebraska. By 1968, the school had transitioned to a post-secondary agriculture technical school.

Despite years of uncertainty and state funding cuts, the NCTA has emerged as a one of the state's most valued resources, serving not only the students and people of Nebraska, but also the nation and the world.

Today the campus is located on 72-acres, in addition to a 562-acre farm which serves as a field laboratory, complete with grain storage facilities, cattle production facilities, and a completely diversified Maryland and irrigated farming operation.

The "ag school at Curtis" fortifies students with an appreciation of Nebraska's agriculture industry and its role in the global economy,